



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 656

January Session, 2025

Substitute Senate Bill No. 1519

Senate, April 14, 2025

The Committee on Government Administration and Elections reported through SEN. FLEXER of the 29th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT DESIGNATING VARIOUS DAYS, WEEKS AND MONTHS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 10-29a of the general statutes is
2 amended by adding subdivisions (118) to (137), inclusive, as follows
3 (*Effective from passage*):

4 (NEW) (118) The Governor shall proclaim February eighth of each
5 year as Scouting America Day, to commemorate the anniversary of the
6 founding of the former Boy Scouts of America in 1910, which became
7 Scouting America. Suitable exercises may be held in the State Capitol
8 and elsewhere as the Governor designates for the observance of the day.

9 (NEW) (119) The Governor shall proclaim February fourteenth of
10 each year as Neurofibromatosis Awareness Day, to raise awareness of
11 this genetic condition that often begins in childhood and causes tumors
12 to grow on nerves throughout the body and also may affect
13 development of the brain, cardiovascular system, bones and skin.

14 Suitable exercises may be held in the State Capitol and elsewhere as the
15 Governor designates for the observance of the day.

16 (NEW) (120) The Governor shall proclaim the month of April of each
17 year as Connecticut Native Plant Month, in recognition of the
18 importance of native plants to the state's rich biological heritage.
19 Suitable exercises may be held in the State Capitol and elsewhere as the
20 Governor designates for the observance of the month.

21 (NEW) (121) The Governor shall proclaim April eleventh of each year
22 as Parkinson's Awareness Day, to raise awareness of the neurological
23 condition of Parkinson's disease and available treatments for it. Suitable
24 exercises may be held in the State Capitol and elsewhere as the
25 Governor designates for the observance of the day.

26 (NEW) (122) The Governor shall proclaim April twenty-sixth of each
27 year as Tuskegee Airmen Day, to recognize the significant contribution
28 of the first African American military fighter pilots in American history
29 who served during World War II, and whose impressive performance
30 earned them more than one hundred fifty Distinguished Flying Crosses.
31 Suitable exercises may be held in the State Capitol and elsewhere as the
32 Governor designates for the observance of the day.

33 (NEW) (123) The Governor shall proclaim the month of May of each
34 year as Brain Tumor Awareness Month, to raise awareness, educate and
35 provide information to the public on available treatments for brain
36 tumors. Suitable exercises may be held in the State Capitol and
37 elsewhere as the Governor designates for the observance of the month.

38 (NEW) (124) The Governor shall proclaim the first Wednesday in
39 May of each year as Local Journalism Appreciation Day, to raise
40 awareness of the value of local journalism. Suitable exercises may be
41 held in the State Capitol and elsewhere as the Governor designates for
42 the observance of the day.

43 (NEW) (125) The Governor shall proclaim May fifth of each year as
44 Red Dress Day, to commemorate missing and murdered indigenous

45 women and children. Suitable exercises may be held in the State Capitol
46 and elsewhere as the Governor designates for the observance of the day.

47 (NEW) (126) The Governor shall proclaim May tenth of each year as
48 Dystonia Awareness Day, to raise awareness of the movement disorder
49 of dystonia that causes muscles to contract involuntarily and available
50 treatments for it. Suitable exercises may be held in the State Capitol and
51 elsewhere as the Governor designates for the observance of the day.

52 (NEW) (127) The Governor shall proclaim May thirteenth to May
53 nineteenth of each year as Face Equity Week, and May nineteenth of
54 each year as Face Equity Day, to recognize those with craniofacial
55 abnormalities. Suitable exercises may be held in the State Capitol and
56 elsewhere as the Governor designates for the observance of the week
57 and day.

58 (NEW) (128) The Governor shall proclaim June first of each year as
59 Barber Recognition Day, to honor barbers in the state. Suitable exercises
60 may be held in the State Capitol and elsewhere as the Governor
61 designates for the observance of the day.

62 (NEW) (129) The Governor shall proclaim June twelfth of each year
63 as National Women Veterans' Recognition Day, to recognize the
64 significant contributions of women who bravely and honorably served
65 in the United States armed forces. Suitable exercises may be held in the
66 State Capitol and elsewhere as the Governor designates for the
67 observance of the day.

68 (NEW) (130) The Governor shall proclaim June twenty-seventh of
69 each year as Connecticut Microbiome Day, in recognition of the role of
70 microbiome therapeutics in combatting diseases; to celebrate
71 Connecticut research achievements in microbiome research; to
72 recognize and raise awareness of the role human, animal and
73 environmental microbiomes have on health and to encourage students
74 and the public to learn more about the impacts of the human
75 microbiome. Suitable exercises may be held in the State Capitol and
76 elsewhere as the Governor designates for the observance of the day.

77 (NEW) (131) The Governor shall proclaim the month of July of each
78 year as Uterine Fibroid Awareness Month, to raise awareness of the
79 symptoms and treatment options for this condition and improve health
80 outcomes for women. Suitable exercises may be held in the State Capitol
81 and elsewhere as the Governor designates for the observance of the
82 month.

83 (NEW) (132) The Governor shall proclaim July twelfth of each year as
84 Connecticut Recipients of the Medal of Honor Day, to acknowledge
85 residents of the state who have been recipients of the Medal of Honor
86 for their courage and sacrifices. Suitable exercises may be held in the
87 State Capitol and elsewhere as the Governor designates for the
88 observance of the day.

89 (NEW) (133) The Governor shall proclaim the third Saturday of
90 September of each year as Lobster Roll Day. Suitable exercises may be
91 held in the State Capitol and elsewhere as the Governor designates for
92 the observance of the day.

93 (NEW) (134) The Governor shall proclaim October fifteenth of each
94 year as Varian Fry Day, to remember the late Connecticut resident
95 Varian Fry's heroic deeds in Marseille, France from 1940 to 1941, where
96 he rescued more than one thousand five hundred refugees, many of
97 whom were Jewish, from the Nazis. Suitable exercises may be held in
98 the State Capitol and elsewhere as the Governor designates for the
99 observance of the day.

100 (NEW) (135) The Governor shall proclaim the month of November of
101 each year as Veterans' Month, in recognition of the service and sacrifice
102 of individuals who have served in the armed forces to protect the United
103 States and the state of Connecticut. Suitable exercises may be held in the
104 State Capitol and elsewhere as the Governor designates for the
105 observance of the month.

106 (NEW) (136) The Governor shall proclaim the month of November of
107 each year as Epilepsy Awareness Month, to raise public awareness of
108 the associated presentation and available treatments for epilepsy.

109 Suitable exercises may be held in the State Capitol and elsewhere as the
110 Governor designates for the observance of the month.

111 (NEW) (137) The Governor shall proclaim the fifteenth day of the
112 month of Kartik in the Hindu lunar calendar of each year as Diwali, to
113 celebrate this festival of lights. Suitable exercises may be held in the State
114 Capitol and elsewhere as the Governor designates for the observance of
115 the day.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	10-29a(a)(118) to (137)

GAE *Joint Favorable Subst.*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill requires the Governor to proclaim a variety of days, weeks, and months resulting in no fiscal impact to the state or municipalities.

The Out Years

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

OLR Bill Analysis**sSB 1519*****AN ACT DESIGNATING VARIOUS DAYS, WEEKS AND MONTHS.*****SUMMARY**

This bill requires the governor to proclaim the following:

1. February 8 to be Scouting America Day, to commemorate the anniversary of the day in 1910 the former Boy Scouts of America was founded, which became Scouting America;
2. February 14 to be Neurofibromatosis Awareness Day, to raise awareness of this genetic condition that often begins in childhood and causes tumors to grow on nerves throughout the body and may affect brain, cardiovascular, bone, and skin development;
3. April to be Connecticut Native Plant Month, to recognize the importance of native plants to the state's rich biological heritage;
4. April 11 to be Parkinson's Awareness Day, to raise awareness of Parkinson's disease and available treatments for it;
5. April 26 to be Tuskegee Airmen Day, to recognize the significant contribution of the first African American military fighter pilots in American history who served during World War II, and whose impressive performance earned them more than 150 Distinguished Flying Crosses;
6. May to be Brain Tumor Awareness Month, to raise awareness, educate, and provide information to the public on available treatments;
7. the first Wednesday in May to be Local Journalism Appreciation Day, to raise awareness of local journalism's value;

8. May 5 to be Red Dress Day, to commemorate missing and murdered indigenous women and children;
9. May 10 to be Dystonia Awareness Day, to raise awareness of dystonia which causes muscles to contract involuntarily, and available treatments for it;
10. May 13 to May 19 to be Face Equity Week, and May 19 to be Face Equity Day, to recognize those with craniofacial abnormalities;
11. June 1 to be Barber Recognition Day, to honor barbers in the state;
12. June 12 to be National Women Veterans' Recognition Day, to recognize the significant contributions of women who bravely and honorably served in the U.S. armed forces;
13. June 27 to be Connecticut Microbiome Day, to (a) recognize microbiome therapeutics' role in combatting diseases; (b) celebrate Connecticut microbiome research achievements; (c) recognize and raise awareness of the role human, animal, and environmental microbiomes have on health; and (d) encourage students and the public to learn more about the human microbiome's impacts;
14. July to be Uterine Fibroid Awareness Month, to raise awareness of this condition's symptoms and treatment options and improve health outcomes for women;
15. July 12 to be Connecticut Recipients of the Medal of Honor Day, to acknowledge state residents who received the Medal of Honor for their courage and sacrifices;
16. the third Saturday of September to be Lobster Roll Day;
17. October 15 to be Varian Fry Day, to remember the late Connecticut resident Varian Fry's heroic deeds in Marseille, France from 1940 to 1941, where he rescued more than 1,500 refugees, many of whom were Jewish, from the Nazis;

18. November as Veterans' Month, to recognize the service and sacrifice of individuals who have served in the armed forces to protect the United States and Connecticut;
19. November as Epilepsy Awareness Month, to raise awareness of the associated presentation and available treatments for it; and
20. the 15th day of the month of Kartik in the Hindu lunar calendar as Diwali, to celebrate this festival of lights.

Under the bill, suitable observance exercises may be held in the state capitol and elsewhere as the governor designates.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

COMMITTEE ACTION

Government Administration and Elections Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 18 Nay 1 (03/26/2025)